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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ATHENS 04263 031713Z

20
ACTION EUR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4040
INFO USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T ATHENS 4263

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO PFOR GR
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S JULY 2 CONVERSATION WITH GOG PRES-
IDENT - NATO

1. IN COURSE OF MY CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT GHIZIKIS JULY 2 I COMPLIMENTED PRIME MINISTER ANDROUTSOPOULOS AND GOG FOR SUPPORTING ENTHUSIASTICALLY THE NATO CHIEFS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING, INCLUDING THE HISTORIC SIGNATURE OF THE OTTAWA DECLARATION. I SAID I ALSO WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED BECAUSE THE DECLARATION PROVIDED FOR THE MAINTENANCE, STRENGTHENING AND PROMOTION OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND HUMAN RIGHTS. AFTER ALL, I ADDED, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND THE COMMUNIST WORLD WAS THAT WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO HUMAN VALUES AND THEY DID NOT; THUS THE IMPORTANCE OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY TO NATO ALLIES. THE PRESIDENT NODDED ASSENT AND AGREED THIS WAS THE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE FROM MY PREVIOUS REPORTS, ARCH-
BISHOP SERAPHIM HAS TOLD ME THAT PRESIDENT GHIZIKIS IS SENSITIVE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF RESTORING AND DEVELOPING ROOTS OF LEGITIMACY FOR GREEK GOVERNMENT. TASCA

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